

# Earth Day Tree Giveaway



**Bur Oak**  
(*Quercus macrocarpa*)  
Height: 50-80'  
Growth: medium  
Fall: Yellow-brown



**Northern Pecan**  
(*Carya illinoensis*)  
Height: 70-100'  
Growth: medium  
Fall: Yellow



**River Birch**  
(*Betula nigra*)  
Height: 40-70'  
Growth: fast  
Fall: Yellow



**Sycamore**  
(*Platanus occidentalis*)  
Height: 70-100'  
Growth: fast  
Fall: Yellow-brown

**Bur Oak** – *Quercus macrocarpa*, commonly called bur oak or mossycup oak, is one of the most majestic of the native North American oaks. It is a medium to large sized deciduous oak of the white oak group that typically grows 60-80' tall with a broad-spreading, rounded crown. Acorn cups are covered with a mossy scale or bur near the rim, hence the common names.

**Northern Pecan** – *Carya illinoensis*, commonly called hardy pecan, is a large deciduous lowland tree that is the largest of the hickories. It typically grows 75-100' tall with a large rounded spreading crown. Trunks mature to 2-4' in diameter.

**River Birch** – *Betula nigra*, commonly called river birch, is a vigorous, fast-growing, medium-sized, deciduous tree which occurs on floodplains, swampy bottomlands and along streams throughout the State. In cultivation, it can be trained as either a single trunk or multi-trunked tree. As a single trunk tree, it develops a pyramidal habit when young, but matures to a more rounded shape typically growing 40-70' tall. Multi-trunked trees form a more irregular crown and are generally considered to be the superior growth habit for this species.

**Sycamore** – *Platanus occidentalis*, commonly called sycamore, American sycamore, eastern sycamore, buttonwood or buttonball tree, is generally regarded to be the most massive tree indigenous to eastern North America. It is a deciduous, usually single-trunk tree that typically grows to 75-100' tall with horizontal branching and a rounded habit. Trunk diameter typically ranges from 3-8', with some records up to 16'.

## **Seedling Planting Information:**

All trees will have their roots wrapped in a wet paper towel which is then wrapped with plastic. The paper towel and plastic must be removed before planting.

### **Planting**

- Dig a hole two-three times the width of the root ball but only as deep as the root ball.
- While holding onto the root ball, center the tree in hole and make sure the top of the root ball is at the surface of the ground.
- Adjust the vertical plumb as needed.
- Do not amend back-fill soil with mulch or compost, but do break it up as much as possible.
- Fill in the hole and then place three to four inches of wood or bark chip mulch around the tree, two-three feet wider than the diameter of hole.
- Keep the mulch six inches away from the base of the tree to prevent moisture buildup on bark.
- Lightly step around hole to firm up soil underneath mulch.

### **Watering:**

- Slowly and thoroughly water the tree to eliminate any big air pockets in soil.
- For the first growing season, check the soil moisture weekly by feeling the soil under the mulch with your finger and water thoroughly as the soil becomes dry.

